

all levels of public services. A three pronged strategy of surveillance, Prevention and Punitive/Deterrent action is followed by the Government. Various Ministries/Departments/Public Sector Undertakings are responsible to ensure probity and integrity in their respective organisations. Recognising that an important aspect of this strategy is Preventive Vigilance, steps have been taken to ensure transparency in public administration and initiate measures of administrative reforms such as introduction of Citizens' Charters, setting up of Facilitation Centres etc. The review and simplification of laws, rules and procedures has also been taken up. The punitive actions being taken under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 duly supported by various rules governing the service conditions of public servants, also acts as a deterrent against corruption. However, the drive against corruption in public services to check malpractices in administration is a continuing process. The policies formulated in this regard are modified from time to time in order to make them more effective and responsive to the changing environment. Besides, some of the recent major initiatives taken by the Government include introduction of Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 1999 in Lok Sabha to confer statutory status upon the Commission, and Freedom of Information Bill, 2000 to bring greater transparency and accountability in the functioning of the Government.

Referring of cases to CBI by the State Governments

3747. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases referred to CBI by the various State Governments for detailed enquiry and the number of cases charge-sheeted;
- (b) whether CBI has also refused to take up some cases referred by the State Governments; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that CBI is not willing to take up some cases for political reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF

PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), 104 references were received by it from various State Governments for inquiry/investigation during the last three years, i.e. 1998, 1999 and 2000. Of these cases, CBI did not take up 10 cases for inquiry/investigation as the facts of the cases did not merit investigation by the CBI. The other references were taken up for inquiry/investigation and 94 cases registered. Out of these cases, charge-sheets have been filed in 45 cases.

(c) No, Sir.

Number of cases arise out of revelations made in Tehelka Tapes

3748. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CBI prosecutor has reportedly stated that a number of cases, as per law, arise out of the revelations made in the Tehelka tapes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action initiated by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) A complaint dated 20.3.2001 of one Shri R.M. Tiwari, Advocate, New Delhi, based on certain revelations of Tehelka tapes, has been received in CBI in which Shri Tiwari has sought registration of a FIR and further action by CBI. Shri Tiwari is not an officer of CBI though he has been engaged by CBI in a few cases as a Special Counsel. The aforesaid complaint has been sent by Shri R.M. Tiwari in his personal capacity and not in his capacity as a panel lawyer of CBI. The said complaint is being examined by CBI.